APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MANAGING TRAFFIC AND QUALITY OF SERVICE IN A HIGH-SPEED ROUTER

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A router for interconnecting external devices coupled to the router. The router comprises a switch fabric and a plurality of routing nodes coupled to the switch fabric. Each of the routing nodes transmits data packets to, and receives data packets from, the external devices and other routing nodes via the switch fabric. The switch fabric detects that the output bandwidth of a first output of the switch fabric has been exceeded and, in response to the detection, attempts to slow the input ports and drops lower priority packets if necessary. The routing nodes give precedence to routing higher priority packets.